

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of detecting antibiotic resistant microorganisms in a sample, comprising:
 - (a) providing a chromogenic medium, said medium comprising administering at least one β -lactam antibiotic ~~to said microorganisms~~, wherein said β -lactam antibiotic is not oxacillin or methicillin;
 - (b) incubating said sample on or in said medium; and
 - (c) observing that resistant microorganisms exhibit growth and non-resistant microorganisms do not exhibit growth.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~administration comprises culturing said microorganisms in or on a chromogenic agar~~ medium is for *S. aureus*, and further wherein said chromogenic ~~agar~~ medium ~~comprising~~ comprises at least one chromogenic agent selected from the group consisting of 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indoxyl phosphate and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl glucoside, ~~said chromogenic agar further comprising at least one β -lactam antibiotic, wherein said β -lactam is not oxacillin.~~
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said microorganisms belong to the *Staphylococcus* genus.
4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said microorganisms are species *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*).
5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said *S. aureus* is resistant to penicillin-type compounds.
6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said penicillin-type compound is methicillin.
7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said β -lactam is a cephalosporin.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said cephalosporin is selected from the group consisting of cephalothin, cefazolin, cephradine, cephalixin, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefoxitin, cefaclor, cefuroxime, cefuroxime axetil, loracarbef, cefonicid, cefotetan, ceforanide, cefotaxime, cefpodoxime proxetil, ceftizoxime, cefiximeceftriaxone, cefoperazone, ceftazidime, moxalactam, cefipime and cefpirome.
9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said cephalosporin is cefoxitin.
10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said β -lactam is a cephalosporin.
11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said cephalosporin is selected from the group consisting of cephalothin, cefazolin, cephradine, cephalixin, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefoxitin, cefaclor, cefuroxime, cefuroxime axetil, loracarbef, cefonicid, cefotetan, ceforanide, cefotaxime, cefpodoxime proxetil, ceftizoxime, cefiximeceftriaxone, cefoperazone, ceftazidime, moxalactam, cefipime and cefpirome.
12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said cephalosporin is cefoxitin.
13. (withdrawn) A kit for detecting the presence of antibiotic resistant microorganisms comprising at least one β -lactam, wherein said at least one β -lactam is not oxacillin.
14. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 13, wherein said wherein said β -lactam is a cephalosporin.
15. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 14, wherein said cephalosporin is selected from the group consisting of cephalothin, cefazolin, cephradine, cephalixin, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefoxitin, cefaclor, cefuroxime, cefuroxime axetil, loracarbef, cefonicid, cefotetan, ceforanide, cefotaxime, cefpodoxime proxetil, ceftizoxime, cefiximeceftriaxone, cefoperazone, ceftazidime, moxalactam, cefipime and cefpirome.
16. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 15, wherein said cephalosporin is cefoxitin.